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S E C R E T CONAKRY 000171

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TREASURY FOR OFFICE OF AFRICAN NATIONS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/12/2017
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SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 36: GUINEA UNREST, FEB. 12, 1530 GMT

REF: CONAKRY 170 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Political Officer Jessica Davis Ba. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (S) Military-on-military violence appears to have subsided, though the situation remains very fluid.

12. (C) According to opposition leader Sidya Toure, tensions persist inside Camp Alpha Yaya between soldiers who want to side with the civilian population and those who do not. He said two trucks of red berets i.e. presidential guards, have entered the camp to support troops loyal President Conte and the chain of command. Toure concluded, "It isn't over yet; President Conte will not refrain from using force, if necessary, to remain in power." Camp Samory Toure, in downtown Conakry, is reported to be calm.

13. (S/NF) No new information available regarding coup plot mentioned in previous sitreps.

14. (C) President Conte remains in Conakry.

15. (C) Members of the Guinean government are meeting as of this writing at Camp Samory Toure. We have unconfirmed reports that they are considering a collective resignation. Other reports indicate they are discussing the declaration of a state of emergency. Minister of State for Economic Development Madikaba Camara confirmed to one of our FSNs that he was at Camp Samory and that all the ministers were working on a "draft," the content of which he would disclose once they were finished. Camara did not report any disturbances at the camp.

16. (C) Multiple sources report that red berets destroyed private radio station Radio Liberte, because it was broadcasting information hostile to the Conte regime. We have not confirmed the alleged arrests of some station employees. As of this afternoon, the station is no longer on the air.

17. (S) Violence continues in the interior with targeted property destruction. Our contact from Macenta, a city near the Liberian border, reported that residents sacked the house belonging to Aicha Conneh, former LURD leader and Conte loyalist who reportedly mobilized LURD and ULIMO militias to defend the Conte regime. Macenta remains volatile. Clashes between citizens and security forces have resulted in at least three deaths. Residents in Labe destroyed the large home of Alpha Ousmane Diallo, former Minister of Housing. Violence and significant property damage continue in

N'Zerekore.

18. (C) French Ambassador Jean-Michel Berriat has told the Ambassador that the French Embassy and government continue to monitor the situation closely, but have not ordered an evacuation.

MCDONALD